

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 PM-04 NEA-10 SS-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 /038 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9654

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S E C R E T KINSHASA 7836

PRETORIA FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS CG

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ZAIRE (S/S ACTION MEMO #7619667)

REF: TOSEC 270328

HAVE REVIEWED REFTEL AND WISH TO POINT OUT FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION
FOLLOWING APPARENT FACTUAL INCONSISTENCIES:

1. REF PARA 2, US ARMY TEAM NOT CURRENTLY IN ZAIRE; HOWEVER,
EXPECTED TO ARRIVE WITHIN THE MONTH. PRIMARY MISSION OF TEAM
IS TO PROVIDE DRIVER TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTION ON NEW
EQUIPMENT (I.E. 2-1/2 TON TRUCKS). WE ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF
THEIR PRESENCE TO GIVE EXPANDED TRAINING ON APCS. RESTORATION
TO OPERATION CONDITION NOT REQUIRED SINCE AS OF 3 AUG 76 TEN OF
TWELVE APCS OPERATIONAL AND NORMALLY EMPLOYED IN PRESIDENTIAL
SECURITY ROLE. IT IS WORTHY TO NOTE THAT ONE APC WAS DEADLINED
LAST FALL WITHIN THE FIRST 100 MILES BY THE US ARMY MOBILE
TRAINING TEAM BECAUSE OF DEFECTIVE PARTS. ACCORDINGLY, IT WOULD
APPEAR THAT, THUS FAR, ZAIRIAN MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL ARE PERFORMING
ADEQUATELY.

2. WITH REGARD TO INOPERABLE AIRCRAFT MENTIONED IN PARA 3, ALL
BUT THREE US PROVIDED AIRCRAFT ARE FLYABLE. IN THE CASE OF THE
FIVE C130S, ONE IS INOPERABLE BECAUSE OF CRASH DAMAGE AND ONE IS
UNDERGOING PERIODIC INSPECTION. THE C130S HAVE BEEN MAINTAINING
AN OPERATIONAL STANDARD IN EXCESS OF FIFTY HOURS PER MONTH. ONE

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OF THE CESSNA 310S PROVIDED LAST YEAR IS INOPERABLE BECAUSE OF

MANUFACTURING DEFECT. CESSNA CORP CURRENTLY ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM.
ADDITIONALLY, THE BUL OF THIRD COUNTRY PROCURED AIRCRAFT
THAT ARE INOPERABLE ARE SO FOR LACK OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO PURCHASE
SPARE PARTS.
CUTLER

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH MR. GAMBER, S/S-O

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